



UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

# Prior Learning Assessment for Adult Learners

## How PLA Fits Into the Degree

- Students must complete 30 credits in residence to earn an undergraduate degree from the University of West Georgia.
- UWG allows undergraduate students to transfer up to 90 credits. 30 transfer credits may come from extension, correspondence work, military education or training, and credit by exam.
- The flexible policy recognizes that learning can take place outside the classroom and is adult-friendly.

90 TOTAL CREDITS ACCEPTED IN TRANSFER		CREDITS EARNED AT UWG
60 CREDITS	30 CREDITS	30 CREDITS

### CLEP – College Level Examination Program

- The CLEP is a great way to earn college credit.
- Students save time by not having to take a course containing material he or she already knows.
- Students save money by not having to pay for a college class.



### Departmental Challenge Exams

- Nine academic departments at UWG offer the opportunity for credit by examination.
- Challenge exams for 31 courses are available.
- 49 students have earned 225 credits on their transcripts at UWG since Fall 2015 thanks to challenge exams!

### Portfolio Assessment

- Prior Learning by Portfolio allows Adult Learners at UWG to earn credits for learning that occurs outside the classroom.
- Select courses in the College of Social Sciences are available for Credit for Prior Learning by Portfolio.

### Military Credit Articulation

- Student veterans may be eligible to receive credit at UWG for their experience.
- Students must submit an official military transcript to request their record be evaluated for possible college credit.
- Military credit is awarded based upon the American Council on Education (ACE) Guide for Military Credit recommendations and will be listed with a grade of 'S' on the student's transcript.
- Faculty have reviewed 54 ACE exhibits since the process began, awarding credit for 35 of them.
- Thus far, 50 students have received credit on the transcript.

## Policy and Programs in Action

- West Georgia's commitment to prior learning assessment saves students time and money, and encourages them to enroll.
- Combined, over 215 students have almost 1100 credits their transcripts at UWG since Fall 2015 via prior learning assessment. Their average gain of 5 credits saves them nearly \$900 each in tuition costs and gets them closer to the ultimate goal of an undergraduate degree.

